

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANTANA 01581 301426Z

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EA-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 OES-07 EB-08

AID-05 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /058 W

-----113653 301847Z /43

R 301350Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9646

INFO AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ANTANANARIVO 1581

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: BEXP, EFIS, MA

SUBJECT: MADAGASCAR FISHERIES CATCH

REFS: A) ANTANANARIVO 1262; B) STATE 178882

1. SUMMARY. MADAGASCAR'S TUNA CATCH HAS DECLINED MARKEDLY FROM 1974 TO 1976 BECAUSE JOINT VENTURE JAPANESE/MALAGASY CORPORATIONS COULD NOT REACH MUTUAL AGREEMENT FOR FUTURE COOPERATION. END SUMMARY.

2. IN 1973, THERE WERE THREE JAPANESE/MALAGASY TUNA FISHING COMPANIES WORKING IN MADAGASCAR: A) COMPAIGNIE MALGACHE ET NIPPONE DE PECHERIE (COMANIP) WHICH WAS 51 PERCENT MALAGASY OWNED AND 49 PERCENT JAPANESE (KAIGAI GYOGYO) OWNED; B) SOCIETE MALGACHE NIPPONE DE VIANDE (MANIVICO) WHICH WAS 51 PERCENT OWNED BY SEVERAL MALAGASY STOCKHOLDERS AND 49 PERCENT OWNED BY JAPANESE INTERESTS;

C) TOSHOKU, LTD, 100 PERCENT JAPANESE OWNED AND PERMITTED BY THE MADAGASCAR GOVERNMENT TO FISH EXPERIMENTALLY FOR TUNA.

TOSHOKU CO. STILL EXISTS ON PAPER BUT IT IS REPORTED THAT NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENT TOWARDS ESTABLISHMENT OF A JOINT VENTURE ARE STALLED. THE OTHER TWO

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FIRMS HAVE CLOSED.

3. EMBASSY CAN ONLY SPECULATE AS TO REASONS FOR WHICH JAPANESE AND MALAGASY PARTNERS COULD NOT COME TO AGREEMENT TO CONTINUE OPERATIONS. HOWEVER, WE SUSPECT THAT IN SOME CASES THE MADAGASCAR SIDE WAS PROBABLY CONTRIBUTING LITTLE MORE THAN THEIR FLAG TO THE JOINT

VENTURE. MADAGASCAR LIMITS FISHING WITHIN 50 NAUTICAL MILES TO MADAGASCAR FLAG VESSELS WHOSE OPERATIONS MUST BE MORE THAN 51 PERCENT MADAGASCAR OWNED. FURTHERMORE, A VERY WELL INFORMED SOURCE REPORTED THAT MADAGASCAR AUTHORITIES MADE IT DIFFICULT FOR THE JAPANESE PARTNERS TO REPATRIATE PROFITS.

4. THE EFFECT OF THIS ON MADAGASCAR FISHING INDUSTRY IS THAT TUNA CATCH, WHICH WAS 12,500 TONS IN 1974, WAS NIL IN 1976.  
BARRETT

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Reference:** 77 ANTANANARIVO 1262, 77 STATE 178882  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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